

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 EB-11 CIAE-00

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RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01

DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03 COME-00 FAA-00 CAB-09 OC-06 CCO-00

OTPE-00 USPS-02 /182 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3622

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 2179

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJ: INDO-PAKISTAN RELATIONS: GOP VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS IN
SIMLA IMPLEMENTATION

REF: NEW DELHI 2998 (NOTAL)

1. GOP ANNOUNCED MARCH 4 THAT TRIPARTITE MEETING
BETWEEN PAKISTAN, INDIA AND BANGLADESH TO SETTLE QUESTION
OF THE 195 PAK POWS WOULD BE HELD IN DELHI AT FOREIGN
MINISTER LEVEL DURING FIRST WEEK OF APRIL. ANNOUNCE-
MENT EXPLAINED AWAY REJECTION BY OTHER TWO OF PAP PRO-
POSAL FOR EARLY MARCH MEETING (ABOUT WHICH GOP PRIVATELY
EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE ANNOYANCE -- SEE ISLAMABAD 2108)
BY INDICATING APRIL DATE WAS "EARLIEST POSSIBLE" ONE
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OTHER EXISTING ENGAGEMENTS OF THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS CONCERNED.

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2. MFA DIRGEN FOR SOUTH ASIA SATTAR REVIEWED STATUS OF INDO-PAKISTAN DISCUSSIONS ON NEXT STEPS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF SIMLA WITH EMBOFF MARCH 1. AS USUAL, SATTAR'S ARGUMENTATION MIRRORS THAT OF HIS COUNTERPART IN NEW DELHI AS DESCRIBED REFTEL.

3. ACCORDING TO SATTAR, GOP IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH GOI ALL AREAS SPELLED OUT IN PARA FIVE OF SIMLA ACCORD. IN GOP VIEW, IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT FACILITATION OF TRAVEL BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES UNTIL CONSULAR FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO PROSPECTIVE TRAVELERS IN BOTH CAPITALS. SATTAR SAID EXPERIENCE DURING PAST TWO YEARS HAD DEMONSTRATED HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS SORT OUT EVEN EXTREMELY LIMITED TRAVEL USING SWISS AS INTERMEDIARIES. SAME WOULD APPLY TO TRADE, WHERE, WITHOUT TRADE REPRESENTATIVES AND EASY TRAVEL FOR PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN, LITTLE TRADE WOULD PROBABLY EMERGE. FOR THESE REASONS, GOP BELIEVED MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ON THESE TWO TOPICS SHOULD AWAIT RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HOWEVER, HE SAID GOP WAS NEVERTHELESS PREPARED TO DISCUSS BOTH SUBJECTS SHOULD GOP PERSIST.

4. ON OVERFLIGHTS, SATTAR SAID THIS GAVE GOP VERY REAL PROBLEMS. GOP HAS 25 MILLION DOLLAR DAMAGE SUIT STILL PENDING AGAINST GOI. ASIDE FROM CONSIDERATION OF THIS SUIT, GOP IS PERTURBED OVER IMPLICATION IN INDIAN STAND THAT A STATE CAN UNILATERALLY SUSPEND OVERFLIGHTS OF ANOTHER STATE DESPITE CHICAGO CONVENTION. GOP IS CONCERNED THAT SHOULD IT ADMIT TO THIS INTERPRETATION OF CHICAGO CONVENTION, OTHER STATES WHICH PIA OVERFLYS MIGHT AT SOME POINT ALSO REFUSE OVERFLIGHT PERMISSION. BECAUSE OF COMPLEXITIES OF OVERFLIGHT DISPUTE, GOP HAS PROPOSED THAT THIS ISSUE BE DEFERRED OR AT LEAST SEPARATED FROM DISCUSSION OF OTHER AREAS OF POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS SO AS NOT TO IMPEDE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

5. SATTAR ADDED THAT GOP HAD PROPOSED RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES AND OF TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMMUNICATIONS AS NON-CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS WITH PRACTICAL UTILITY FOR CITIZENS OF BOTH COUNTRIES, WHICH

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COULD BE EASILY BE IMPLEMENTED.

6. SATTAR REITERATED THAT GOP PROPOSAL FOR RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WAS SEEN BY PAKS MERELY AS MEANS OF EFFECTING EXPEDITIOUS RESTORATION OF NORMAL SUBSTANTIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. DECONTROL MARCH 5, 1975. BYROADE

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